Reply of Government.—It is not possible to give effect to the proposal consistently with the proper maintenance of the tank and the distribution of water without violating hereditary rights. The best remedy for the inconveniences complained of will be provided by the Tank Panchayet Regulation, which is under consideration.

SUBJECT NO. 84.

(*a*) Appointment and remuneration of totis and talaris.

Messrs. A. Venkatachar, Hole-Narsipur Taluk; Nadig Bhaskara Rao, Nadig Laksmana Rao, Rama Rao, Sorab Taluk; Venkanna, Molakalmuru Taluk; Parvatappa, Holalkere Taluk, Mudlagiri Rao, Jagalur Taluk, Srinivas Sitaram Kulkarni, Harihar Sub-Taluk; Syed Sab, Baji Rao Sindhe, Kankanhalli Taluk, Shanbhog Naraharaiya, and Channa Lingappa, Nelamangala Taluk.

(*b*) Miras to village servants in jodi villages.

Mr. Surappa, Tumkur Taluk.

Summary of discussion. (*a*)—1. As there are no talaris in many villages, one may be appointed for each village or at least one for each firka. Totis also may be employed for each village.

Some villages have sufficient inam lands assigned to these servants, others hardly enough, while some have none at all. As much difficulty is felt in procuring the services of these servants for Government duties, arrangements may be made to give them miras or cash remuneration.

2. The totis and talaris may be paid in cash instead of in kind. The amount required for payment to these servants may be levied from the raiyats along with the land revenue. Some villages have no totis and talaris attached to them. This causes much inconvenience to Government work. The rule that miras at the rate of three seers per acre should be given to these servants works hardly on big land-holders; when a reduction of this rate was proposed in 1906, it was said that the matter would be referred to the Survey Commissioner.

For want of totis and talaris, the patels in the malnad are very heavily worked and they find it very difficult to regularly submit their reports and accounts and to attend to the regular collection of land revenue from the raiyats. It is therefore prayed that in every village in the malnad, a toti and a talari may be appointed by Government as in the case of maidan villages.

3. The *Istiharnama* prescribing the rates of miras to totis and talaris was read out at the Resurvey Settlement to the raiyats present at the time and they were given to understand that the order would be in force for 30 years. The raiyats holding dry lands feel it hard to pay the miras at the prescribed rate of three seers per acre to each of the several classes of village servants, as in these seasons of scarcity, they do not always get a proper yield from their lands. The talaris and totis have consequently to resort to the revenue courts for filing suits against defaulting raiyats, and this enhances the burden on the raiyats. As it is not easy to pay miras in kind, it may be ordered to be paid in money at one anna per rupee of the kandayam each raiyat pays to Government.

A cess of 6 pies per acre may be levied and the amount thus collected paid to the village servants direct from the Treasury.

As observed by Government, the levy of a separate cess would only increase the assessment payable by the raiyats. The miras levied from them may be commuted into a money payment and the entire cost of remunerating the village servants may be borne by Government.

4. The old system of the payment of miras to totis at one *kolaga* of ragi and one bundle of grass by each raiyat may again be introduced.

Some concession may be shown to owners of land who pay a large amount of *kandayam* to Government as otherwise they are likely to suffer much during a failure of crops. At the time of taluk jamabandi it must be ascertained from the totis and talaris if their miras has been properly paid.

(*b*) Orders were passed in 1893 by Government that the miras payable to village servants in Jodi and Kayamgutta villages must be levied from the raiyats and not from the Jodidars; but the reply to Subject No. 61 of 1907 seems directly to contradict this order. Miras may be levied from the raiyats in accordance with the *mamul*.

Reply of Government.—The subject is a very intricate one and has been referred to the Revenue Commissioner and the Survey Superintendent for consideration. Their proposals are awaited.

Subject No. 85.

(1) Restoration of minor tanks.

Messrs. Chik Ramanna, Suryanarayanappa, Sonne Gowda, Byre Gowda, Kolar Taluk; Nama Rangaiya, Chintamani Taluk; D. Srikanta Rao, S. Gopalachar, Devanhalli, Amble Annaiya Pandit, Yedatore Taluk; Subrayabhatta, Seshappa, Tirthahalli Taluk; Nadiga Lakshmana Rao, Bhaskara Rao, Sorab Taluk; B. Sitharamaiya, Chikmagalur Taluk; and A. Venkatachar, Hole-Narsipur Taluk.

(2) Repairs to feeder channels of tanks.

Messrs. H. Rama Rao, Tumkur Taluk, and H. Shama Rao, Sagar Taluk.

(3) Regulation of water-supply from tanks.

Messrs. Ramanuja Iyengar, Gubbi Taluk, and Amble Anniah Pandit, Yedatore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—1. For the restoration of tanks which have an achkat of Rs. 300 and under, Government require a contribution from raiyats. No such demand is made for tanks with an achkat of more than Rs. 300. A similar concession may be shown in the case of minor tanks also.

Since the raiyats pay a high assessment on lands irrigated by tanks, the cost of repairing them is properly a charge on Government and it is a hardship to the raiyats to be liable to pay contributions now and then for the purpose. The cost may, in future, be borne by Government.

In the malnad only major tanks are taken up for restoration by Government. As the number of such tanks is very small the restoration of all tanks with an achkat of Rs. 100 and upwards may be undertaken by Government.

The cost of the raiyats' share of the earthwork may be advanced by Government and recovered in four annual instalments along with the kandayam, interest at the rates paid by the Savings Bank being levied on the amount advanced.

An assessment of Rs. 6 per acre is fixed on wet lands under minor tanks as in the case of lands under major tanks and no distinction is made in the matter of rates. The wet assessment on lands below such tanks may be reduced to dry rates when crops fail.